

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY STATE
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSE OF

ADRIENNE ROTONDO, R.N.
License # NR 06613600

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER
OF DISCIPLINE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is a registered professional nurse in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.
2. On or about October 18, 2013, respondent was sent an inquiry on behalf of the Board, requesting information about her nursing practice, including allegations that in February of 2013 she had submitted Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) renewal cards to the facility where she was employed. Ms.

Rotondo was also asked to supply documentation of all continuing education completed for the renewal period of June 1, 2011 through May 31, 2013.

3. Respondent denied submitting fraudulent ACLS and BLS cards to the facility. She also claimed she was unable to document required continuing education.

4. Rosemary McGuinness, Education Coordinator in charge of the education provided through Atlantic Training center for all employees of Atlantic Health System, including ACLS and BLS, indicated in a certification that she had been asked on or about March 13, 2013 to verify whether Adrienne Rotondo had completed ACLS and BLS training and whether the cards she had submitted were valid. Ms. McGuinness consulted the data base of those persons who had taken ACLS and BLS training through the Atlantic Training Center and found no record of Adrienne Rotondo's name.

5. Ms. McGuinness then reviewed copies of the cards submitted by Adrienne Rotondo, and ascertained that the cards were in an old format that had not been used since 2010. Ms. McGuinness indicated that at the time the cards were supposedly issued, in December of 2012, the cards would have had a different appearance. Moreover, the instructor whose name was printed on the rear of the cards, "Marianne Willis," had been dead for a number of years at the time the cards supposedly issued. Ms. McGuinness included with her certification copies of the modern format of the ACLS and BLS cards along with the copies of the cards that respondent had submitted, which clearly differed.

6. On her 2013 renewal application, respondent indicated that he would have completed all required continuing education for the 2011-2013 renewal application by May 31, 2013.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent's submission of false documentation of ACLS and BLS training constitutes the employment of dishonesty and deception within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) and professional misconduct within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent's inability to document completion of continuing education requirements for the 2011-2013 renewal period constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3, subjecting her to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

3. Respondent's indication on her 2013 renewal application that she would complete all required continuing education for the 2011-2013 renewal period by May 31, 2013 constitutes misrepresentation in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on May 27, 2014, provisionally suspending respondent's nursing license, and imposing two reprimands and a \$250.00 civil penalty. A copy of the Order was served upon respondent by certified and regular mail at her address of record. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

The record reflects that the certified mailing of the Provisional Order was returned, unclaimed. The regular mailing was not returned. No response has been received to date. The Board considered this matter, and determined that service had been effected, as the mailings had been sent to respondent's address of record with the Board. Licensees cannot evade process by failing to provide the Board with a valid address. The Board further determined that as no discrepancies had been raised with regard to the findings and conclusions of the Provisional Order, additional proceedings were not necessary, and the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 11th day of July, 2014,
ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's New Jersey nursing license is hereby suspended until respondent has provided proof of completion, in the form of certificates of completion, of 30 contact hours of nursing continuing education to be applied to the 2011-2013 renewal period..

2. A reprimand is hereby imposed for respondent's violation of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(b) in connection with providing false documentation of completion of ACLS and BLS training.

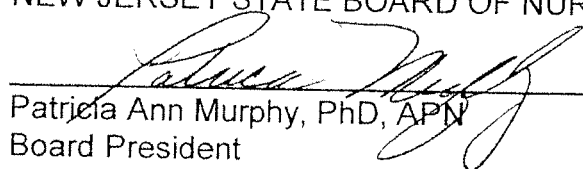
3. A reprimand is hereby imposed for respondent's misrepresentation about continuing education on her 2013 application.

4. A \$250.00 civil penalty is hereby imposed for violation of N.J.A.C. 13:37-5.3. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check or money order, made payable to the State of New Jersey, which shall be due within 21 days following the filing this Final Order of Discipline. Payment shall be sent to the attention of George Hebert, R.N.,

Executive Director, Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 45010, 124 Halsey Street, 6th Floor,
Newark, NJ 07101.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN
Board President